

The Means for Decision

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organization and its members used to compose and read papers and hold discussions on various topics. I believe I still have an essay that I read at one of its meetings. All the Gues and Pounds belonged to it and it represented the best aims of the neighborhood. We used to enjoy its meetings but I think most of us liked a good dance better.

THE MEANS FOR DECISION

Horace Mann in *Common School Journal of Iowa*, January, 1841: If those momentous questions are ever to be correctly decided, which, for ages past have been submitted to the rack, the fagot, and the dungeon, and they could not decide—which the blood of all the myrtrrs has failed to decide—which the power of kings, aided by the wealth of nations, has failed to decide—if these questions are ever to be correctly decided, without supernatural agency, it must be by each party laying aside its exclusiveness, its pride, its infallibility, its contempt, and, by the union of all in some noble plan, to give to another generation fitter attainments, greater capacities, and that without which all other means are worthless—minds free from prejudice, and yearning after truth.

MUST UNDERSTAND OUR PAST

Dr. Raymond B. Fosdick, president of Rockefeller Foundation: No nation can manage its future which does not understand its past. Research and study are needed of the basis of our American habits and traditions—a wider knowledge of who we are and where and what we came from, a fuller interpretation of American life to enable us to comprehend what we possess today and on what our tomorrow can be built . . . The culture of the one world in the making is necessarily compounded on the diverse contributions of many peoples. Until a nation understands itself in relation to its own culture, it cannot intelligently harmonize and integrate its life into the larger pattern.

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